

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02067 291016Z

12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 290945Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5809

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEHRAN 2067

EXDIS

ALGIERS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, MO, IR, US

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO MOROCCO

REF: TEHRAN 2064

1. I MET WITH MINISTER OF COURT ALAM MORNING OF FEBRUARY 29 AS SCHEDULED. HE SAID THAT HE HAD CONVEYED WHAT I TOLD HIM YESTERDAY (REFTEL) TO THE SHAH, WHO HAD DECIDED THAT IRAN WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT QUOTE IF NECESSARY UNQUOTE WE WOULD TELL THE CONGRESS THAT THE ARMS IRAN WAS TRANSFERRING TO JORDON WAS BECAUSE JORDON RPT JORDON WANTED TO HELP MOROCCO. HE ASKED, THEREFORE, THAT THE TRANSFER PROCESS BE SET IN MOTION FOR SIXTEEN 155 MM HOWITZERS, SIX F-5AS, PLUS MUNITIONS AND SPARES. HE SAID THAT A FORMAL REQUEST WOULD BE COMING TO US FROM EITHER THE MINISTRY OF WAR OR THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUT HOPED IN THE MEANTIME THAT WE COULD INITIATE THE PROCESS. IN THIS CONNECTION, ALAM REMARKED GLOOMILY THAT HE WONDERED WHETHER THE EQUIPMENT WOULD REACH MOROCCO IN TIME TO DO ANY GOOD. HE ADDED THAT IT WAS HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT THE ONLY THING THAT COULD HELP MOROCCO NOW WERE ANTI-TANK AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILES.

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2. WITH RESPECT TO REPLACEMENT OF THE 155 HOWITZERS,
IRAN WISHES OUR ASSISTANCE IN DIVERTING THE APPROPRIATE
NUMBER OF MOROCCAN 155 MM HOWITZERS NOW ON ORDER TO IRAN
AT THE EARLIER POSSIBLE DATE. ALAM SAID THAT IRAN WOULD
BE MAKING THE SAME POINT TO MOROCCO.

3. ALAM CONCLUDED BY NOTING THAT THE SHAH WAS VERY
CONCERNED ABOUT MOROCCO AND THOUGHT THAT WE SHOULD EVEN
BE MORE SO, SINCE IT WAS QUOTE ON YOUR ATLANTIC BORDER
UNQUOTE. HE FEARED THAT THE ONLY THING THAT COULD SAVE
THE SITUATION WAS CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED ON ALGERIA BY ITS
OWN INTERNAL SITUATION.
MIKLOS

SECRET

NNN

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